

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Homer****Project Title:**

Homer - Main Street Intersection/Reconstruction

State Funding Requested: \$ 4,750,000**House District: 35 - R**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Reconstruct Main Street from Pioneer Avenue to Bunnell Avenue, including roundabout at intersection with Sterling Highway

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$4,750,000**Funding Secured

Amount FY

Other Pending Requests

Amount FY

Anticipated Future Need

Amount FY

There is no other funding needed

*Explanation of Other Funds:**The City of Homer has pledged to assume ultimate ownership, maintenance, and operations responsibility for Main Street once improvements are made.***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Homer's Main Street is State owned from Pioneer Avenue south. This project will provide curb and gutter, sidewalks, storm drainage, paving, and landscaping for Main Street from Pioneer Avenue south to Bunnell Avenue. Electric lines will be moved underground. The project will also address safety hazards at the intersection of Main Street and the Sterling Highway by constructing a modern roundabout as recommended by the Alaska Department of Transportation in the 2005 Homer Intersections Planning Study.

Homer's Main Street is a primary north-south corridor running from Bayview Avenue (near the hospital) to Ohlson Lane (near Bishop's Beach). In the process, it connects Homer's primary downtown street, Pioneer Avenue, with the Sterling Highway and provides the most direct access to the Old Town district. It also provides the western border to Homer's new Town Center district.

Increased traffic related to general population growth as well as Town Center development has made the Main Street/Sterling intersection the most dangerous intersection in Homer. The 2005 ADOT study included this intersection as one which needs a roundabout or traffic signal "NOW." ADOT recommends a roundabout because of good operational performance, superior safety performance, and reduced maintenance as compared to a traffic signal intersection.

Despite its proximity to the hospital, businesses, and residential neighborhoods, Main Street has no sidewalks, making pedestrian travel unpleasant and hazardous. Sidewalks on this busy street will enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors alike and provide economic benefits to local businesses and the community as a whole.

Project Timeline:

Design in calendar year 2008-09; construction in 2009.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

City of Homer will accept ownership and maintenance

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: Walt Wrede, City Manager

Phone Number: 907-235-8121 x2222

Address: 491 E. Pioneer Ave., Homer, AK 99603

Email: wwrede@ci.homer.ak.us

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No



City of Homer Capital Budget Request • FY 2009

MAIN STREET RECONSTRUCTION/ STERLING HWY. INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT

PROJECT DESCRIPTION & BENEFIT: This project will provide curb and gutter, sidewalks, storm drainage, paving, and landscaping for Main Street from Pioneer Avenue to Bunnell Street and construct a roundabout or install a traffic signal at the intersection of Main Street and the Sterling Highway. Electric lines will be moved underground.

Homer's Main Street is a primary north-south corridor running from Bayview Avenue (near the hospital) to Ohlson Lane (near Bishop's Beach). In the process, it connects Homer's primary downtown street, Pioneer Avenue, with the Sterling Highway and provides the most direct access to the Old Town district. It also provides the western border to the proposed Town Center district.

Despite its proximity to the hospital, businesses, and residential neighborhoods, Main Street has no sidewalks, making pedestrian travel unpleasant and hazardous. The intersection with the Sterling Highway has become increasingly dangerous.

PLANS & PROGRESS: Main Street is a City street from Pioneer Avenue northward, and a State street from Pioneer Avenue south. The Homer Non-Motorized Transportation and Trail Plan, adopted by the City Council in 2004, calls for construction of sidewalks on both sides of Main Street to provide a safe means for pedestrians to travel between Old Town and Pioneer Avenue, and stresses that this should be regarded as a "near term improvement" to be accomplished in the next two years. The Homer Intersections Planning Study released by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities in June 2005 recommended a roundabout or traffic signal at the Main Street/Sterling Highway intersection "now." The intersections study states that ADOT&PF recommends roundabouts over traffic signals in Homer "because of the good operational performance of roundabouts, superior safety performance, and reduced maintenance."

The Homer City Council passed Resolution 06-70 in June 2006 requesting that ADOT "rebuild and upgrade Main Street from Pioneer Avenue to Bunnell Avenue as soon as possible in exchange for the City assuming ultimate ownership, maintenance, and operations responsibility."

Cost: \$2.25 million for intersection improvement; \$2.5 million for road reconstruction.

Schedule: 2009

STATE REQUEST FOR FY 2009: \$4.75 million.



A mother pushes a stroller along Main Street between the Sterling Highway and Bunnell Street, while another pedestrian walks on the other side of the road.